

they by running over too much dry
 interesting. The Hon. Senator Thurn-
 ator Morgan, of Alabama, says there
 was the speech to annoy Southern Demo-
 He saw nothing in it calling for re-
 Hill was exceedingly anxious to reply,
 was all Thurnator and others could do to
 in session. When the Senate went into
 tive session Hill expressed regret that he
 not kicked over the traces and responded.
 Senator Sumner, of Massachusetts, and How-
 y misrepresented Judge Whittaker, and
 uted to correct his statement, but Thur-
 and others insisted that nothing should be

A DISAPPOINTED OLD POLITICIAN.
 re's speech bore evidence of prolonged ab-
 to his subject, and one Senator was so
 as to remark to a crowd of friends that
 he received was that Judge Howe had
 wrote it in the day Gen. Harlan's name was
 for the Supreme Court. Those who
 that Howe, in addition to having many
 at work for him to procure
 ector as the Bench, was
 a personal applicant for the
 and this line he even went up to the White
 and the man who had been fixed on for
 ecessor in the Senate to talk the matter
 over, and that the President, when he in-
 ict is, Howe all smiles to the Presi-
 dent, had only pleasant words for him up
 time of the failure of his own application
 cess. There has been no special change in
 the views of the President. When it comes
 tried to make himself agreeable to the
 House. The chief significance of his
 lies in the fact that it is regarded
 Republican Senators as the first an-
 nouncement that the President is to try
 carry on the party without the President,
 at they intend to ignore him so far as
 e. The speech was not made without
 full understanding of its character,
 full knowledge of the power to which
 is welcomed by a large class of Republi-
 can Congress.

THEIR MEMBERS' DELEGATION.
 speech was made without consultation
 with the members of the Wisconsin dele-
 gation. Some of them to-night at heart ap-
 peared to be angry. In the course of the
 course, but even those who do
 they would not like to try the ex-
 periment for themselves. When it comes
 from the newspapers that Howe
 made to make this attack the proposition
 made by some of the Representatives that
 could visit him and advise him to desist,
 and as they were about entering upon
 design, and should not predetermine such
 conflict in the State without con-
 sideration in the delegation. Senator
 Cannon, however, suggested that it
 is better as it is. When it comes to
 "one," Matt Carpenter summed up the
 of Howe's speech in these words:
 "Horace Greeley said was true.—These
 Republicans enough for one party, but
 there is enough for the other party. It was
 this fall, and of the nation in 1883."

RAIS SPEECH.
 TO THE SENATE, DECEMBER 23.—In the Sen-
 ate the expiration of the morning hour, Mr.
 Howe said he had no objection to the
 for information in regard to the alleged
 of Judge Whittaker, of Louisiana,
 and he proceeded to say:

Howe said: During the past year we
 have heard everywhere throughout the
 country that Judge Whittaker was a
 man but acknowledged that he was
 busy with the work of assailing the
 President, and that he was not in a
 position to give us any information
 those who are our adversaries supporters.
 President's policy, and pouring un-
 der the name of the President, the
 set up at all the cross-roads, flags inacted
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AMUSEMENTS.

McVicker's Theatre.
 Madison Street, between Dearborn and State.
 "A Celebrated Case," by the Union Square Company.

Hookey's Theatre.
 Randolph Street, between Clark and LaSalle.
 "The American Comedy."

New Chicago Theatre.
 Clark Street, opposite Sherman House. Engagement of Hookey's Minstrels.

Hookey's Theatre.
 Monroe Street, corner of Dearborn. Engagement of Frank Mayo. "The Comedy."

Coliseum Variety Theatre.
 Clark Street, opposite Court House. Variety performance.

THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 1878.

Greenbacks at the New York Stock Exchange yesterday closed at 94.

The Hon. ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, Premier of Canada, received Sunday an anonymous epistle informing him that he had but two days to live, at the end of which time he would be shot. The fate of a Canadian statesman ten years ago, who fell by the hand of an assassin, lends some weight to the threat, but it is, however, believed impossible of fulfillment.

It appears that the Democratic Governor of Ohio has so shamelessly and insatiably pursued his pecuniary interests, through the advantages afforded by his high official position, as to have excited the warm disgust of the most hungry of his party. Even the not very squeamish Democratic press of Ohio is distressed that the spectacle should under Democratic rule be presented for the first time in the history of the State of a Governor selling provisions to the Penitentiary, and summoning whole delegations of Representatives to his mansion to demand their votes for a grab for a railroad corporation of which he is a principal functionary.

Representative BORN, of the Ninth Illinois District, can with advantage take a few lessons in parliamentary dignity and legislative decorum if a fair sample of his qualities in that regard is afforded in the bill which he yesterday introduced providing, among other things, for the sale by the State of that portion of the Lake Front Park lying south of Madison Street, and the application of the proceeds toward the completion of the Illinois River improvement project. The bill is chiefly remarkable for its malice toward Chicago, and for its incongruity as a legislative enactment, and for the certainty that it will never become a law.

It is daily becoming more evident that the pending controversy between England and Russia has not only delayed the meeting of the proposed Congress, but will possibly result in postponing the meeting indefinitely. Several Continental journals have already virtually admitted that there is little likelihood of England's receding from the position she has taken, and it is the tone of the Russian press indicative of a determination on the part of that Government which gives little hope of concession. The last named journals accuse the English Government of chicanery, and call upon the Continental Powers to ignore Great Britain and settle the existing crisis among themselves.

A resolution was introduced last evening in the Common Council by Ald. Kutz, under the rules referred to the Judiciary Committee, which ought to be promptly passed, as it undoubtedly reflects the sentiments of a very large majority of the taxpayers and parents of Chicago. It recites that it is the sense of the Council that the appropriation for school purposes was intended for, and should be first applied to, furnishing means of primary education in the necessary common-school branches to every child of school age for the full school year. The passage of such a resolution as an expression of the Council's desire in the matter would be entirely proper at this time; and the Board of Education should be glad to obtain such an expression from the representatives direct of the people.

According to a decision of the Wisconsin Supreme Court just rendered, the Tax Assessors of that State have time out of mind been guilty of systematic and repeated perjury in making affidavits that they had performed their duties according to statutory requirement. The law declares that real property shall be assessed at its full cash value; the practice has uniformly been to assess on a valuation of about one-third. All such assessments are decided by the Court to be null and void, and as scarcely any other kind have been made in the State during the past twenty years, a condition of chaos has nearly come to pass in tax matters. The moral of it all is, that each Assessor should be authorized to make a law to suit himself, or else the whole tribe of Assessors should be punished for failure to execute the law as passed by the Legislature.

For most cruel and brutal murder committed on the 17th of October, 1868, PATRICK TULLY, PATRICK HARTZ, and PETER McHUGH were yesterday executed at Bloomington, Pa. They were members of the bloody organization of assassins and bandits known as the "Mollie Maguires," which for several years flourished to the shame and disgrace of Pennsylvania, and there was among the first of a long calendar of murders which have since accumulated against the Order. Its backbone is at last broken, the numerous arrests, convictions, and executions that have occurred within the past year or two having evidently diverted the

organization of its chief attraction to the cowardly ruffian who composed it—viz: the opportunity it afforded for escape from detection and punishment. The hanging of TULLY, HARTZ, and McHUGH will help to strengthen the hands of the law officers, since it will help to make the law respected by a class of men who had come to disbelieve in the existence of legal restraint or the power of retributive justice.

Senator HOWE, of Wisconsin, has had ample time in which to ascertain and record in the form of a speech the complete failure of the President's Southern policy and his efforts in behalf of Civil-Service reform. He has had a year to do it, and it must be conceded that he has done it. Time was when Senator Howe had high hopes of the Administration, when he was prepared, in fact, to pronounce it the most successful Administration in the history of the Republic or any other party. Just at the critical juncture, when its eternal fame hung in the balance, the Administration blundered and fell, never to rise again—in the estimation of Senator Howe.

When the President failed to appoint Senator Howe to the Supreme Court vacancy, since then the whole face of public opinion has changed. The policy of the new Board, and the character of the South has ceased to be beneficent, and become an infernal plot to destroy the Republic; Civil-Service reform is a hollow mockery; the Cabinet a collection of nobodies; the Administration a farce on general principles. Senator Howe doubtless considers it a fortunate thing that he escaped the necessity of remaining the friend of the President when he fell short of the supreme judicial prize; the contrary, more than ever since the speech of yesterday, feels sure that it was a fortunate thing.

The election of Tuesday next is not of less importance to the people of the city because it is confined to the choice of one Alderman from each ward. The eighteen Aldermen who may be elected will constitute one-half of the new Board, and the character of the whole Board will depend upon the personal and official character of the men chosen this year. The city has had a hard struggle to maintain a prudent and to some extent economical City Government during the last two years. Many of the best men in the Council have declined further service, but there is a large rush of quite a different class of persons eager to become members of the City Government. The new Board is a stronger effort on the part of the money-expending class to get control of the Council. More than one of the notorious County Commissioners of last year seek to become City Councilmen, that they may co-operate with their friends in the County Board in manipulating the expenditures for the City-Hall and Court-house, and the expenditures of the city generally. The election of Aldermen is therefore of vital importance to the city. In this hour of financial distress and embarrassment, the city needs the services of men of integrity and business experience, and these can only be elected by the general support of the taxpayers. To allow the election to go by default is to surrender the City Government to the rule of the corruptionists that are clamorous for the work of spoliation.

Secretary SCHURZ has been compelled to confess himself beaten in his warfare with Mr. BLAINE. The timber-thieves have been covered with the protection of Congress. It has been resolved that no company which cuts timber for use within its own territory shall be prosecuted, although it had previously been shown that some of our citizens were making large sums of money out of their operations on Government lands. The arguments with which Mr. BLAINE defeated Mr. SCHURZ were: (1) That Prussia was smaller by 15,000 square miles than Montana; and (2) that the timber-lands of Prussia may be, for all Mr. BLAINE knows to the contrary, oppressive. Mr. BLAINE also assumed by some sort of implication that the timber-lands of Prussia were better than those of Montana. He was not good, and consequently he was not entitled to credit. Now, it is an exceedingly dangerous thing for a man in Mr. BLAINE's delicate position to invite a comparison of characters with CARL SCHURZ. The popular memory is not so short that it has already forgotten the Little Rock & Fort Smith scandal. It is remembered that, when Speaker of the House, Mr. BLAINE was charged with "various channels" in which he knew he could be useful to this railroad concession, then likely to solicit Congressional aid, and he promised that he "would not prove a deadhead in the enterprise" if he should embark in it. There is evidence that he afterwards did "embark in the enterprise," and did not prove "a deadhead." He worked his passage better. Mr. BLAINE will by attacking better men than himself. He ought to take some man of his size; but, unfortunately, he is all within him in his attack on Mr. SCHURZ.

We print elsewhere an interview with Mr. C. O. Smith, United States Appraiser, at this point, in regard to a difference between New York and Chicago in the classification of certain lace edgings, referred to in our Washington dispatches of yesterday. We allude to the interview for the purpose of calling attention to a very remarkable statement therein contained, namely: that the Department is in the habit of submitting such disputes to the decision of one of the parties to the controversy. For instance, the case referred to is this: The New York Appraiser classified certain shawls as "wool, cotton, and worsted," dutiable at 50 cents per pound and 40 per cent *ad valorem*. The Chicago Appraiser found them to be of wool exclusively, dutiable at 50 cents per pound, and 35 per cent *ad valorem*. The Department was of the opinion that the difference directed the Collector at Chicago to have samples of the shawls sent to the Appraiser at New York. In other words, the Department surrendered its right of ultimate decision on a disputed question to one of the parties to the dispute! The statement of Mr. Hax is almost incredible; but it is partially supported by the Washington dispatch touching the lace-edging case, which states that the Customs Division of the Treasury Department "has sent samples of the lace to the principal Eastern Appraisers," etc. We never heard of the Customs Division sending samples of anything to the principal Western or Southern Appraisers! But if it is proper to send samples to one part of the country, it is equally proper to send them to another part of the country. The practice of hawking samples through the country is utterly absurd. In this West, Kansas & Co. alone *ad valorem* time has been consumed; and only notice of one. Under the proposed Sample Bureau system a decision might have

been reached in the case in five days instead of forty. The operations of Mr. JAMES' "Customs Division" reminds us of the English "Circumlocution Office," so graphically described by DICKENS, where promptitude is represented as a crime. To every question pointing to the disclosure of information the listless British official replies: "You mustn't want to know, you know."

CITY FINANCES.
 The Comptroller explains that the \$724,000 of cash in the City Treasury to which we referred yesterday is not available except to a very small portion for any current expenditures of the city. The law prohibits the use of the Water Fund for any other purpose, no matter how temporary such use may be. Some of the items of money in the Treasury represent surplus of old appropriations, and these are available, as, for instance, the River Improvement Fund, and the Building Fund, amounting to about \$70,000, which is now applicable to the City-Hall improvement. The large sum on deposit for special assessments are the sums collected for street openings; this money, large as is the sum, is not a small portion of what remains to be collected. It is due in temporary payments to be collected by the city, and is subject to call. The remainder represents the partial collections made on taxes to meet unexpended appropriations. This money is collected in small sums, and collections continue to drop in and the money is accumulating in the Treasury until such time as sufficient can be collected to go on with the works for which the appropriations were made. To meet this large sum of money now held idle in the City Treasury, and perhaps half a million dollars or more which is yet to be collected, creating a surplus revenue which would be especially available at this time, and would be of great assistance in carrying on the city until such time as the current revenue can be collected. There is not the slightest likelihood in the way of the City Council offering the discount of one-half of the expenditures represented by unexpended appropriations. We do not refer to special assessments, but to appropriations for new engine-houses, school sites and buildings, and like purposes. We know that it will be claimed that there are not school-houses enough; that is freely admitted; but the city has not money enough to pay the current expenses of the schools we have, and it is a question whether it may not be more advisable to use the money appropriated for additional buildings than to close the present schools for the want of money to support them. To the average Alderman and the average City Treasurer is not only unprecedented, but is revolutionary. It is a violation of "vested rights," and an appeal to the courts for an injunction is imperatively demanded. Give back money once voted out of the Treasury? Perish the thought! Yet we are finding ourselves in the predicament of a building a costly addition to his house, and at the same time short of money to pay the expense of living and unable to borrow, would naturally abandon the scheme of building, and so revert his expenditures as to be able to live within his available means. That is the policy which a prudent business man would adopt in his own affairs, and the City Council might well imitate it by discontinuing all unexpended appropriations made when the city was not embarrassed, and apply the money intended for those purposes to the most absolute necessities of the city. That would be a direct and practical reduction of \$600,000 in the expenditures, and create a surplus that would materially aid the city in its enforced policy of "Pay as you go."

PHANTOM MONEY.
 The introduction of the greenback constitutional amendment by Gen. EVANS, of Ohio, into the House is an open confession by this apostle of the rag-baby that the limit of 400 millions of forced war notes, commonly called "greenbacks," cannot be constitutionally exceeded. There is no lawyer in Congress of any party or faction who has given the subject serious consideration but has come to the same conclusion. The Supreme Court practically decided several years ago that Congress could not issue irredeemable notes in times of peace and compel one private citizen to receive them from another in payment of debts in great or irredeemable national debt or necessity, required it. Gen. EVANS sees no way of getting around the constitutional obstacle except by changing the Constitution itself, which is a slow and difficult thing to do; he can hardly expect to live long enough to witness the incorporation of his proposed amendment into the supreme law.

Acute-humored persons touching the power of the Federal Government to issue "money," by bill, out of some worthless substance, and endow it with a purchasing power equal to that of the precious metals. They think that Congress possesses a power even greater than that ascribed to the fabled *Aladdin's* lamp. The alchemists only sought to discover a secret of Nature which would enable them to transmute base metals into gold. But the genuine Greenbacker believes that the political corporation known as Congress can easily eclipse all that was claimed for the occult science of the alchemists by changing a mixture of lamplight and straw into a money superior to silver or gold. This Congressional alchemy is not to be like the greenbacks, redeemable in coin, and not like a snake, a promise to pay some day, but a thing to the holder, but it is to be an absolute substitute in purchasing power for the precious metals! There are two JOKES—JOKES of one kind is known as "Silver" JOKES, of Nevada, the other as Rag-Baby JOKES, of Nevada, with the premonitions GEORGE O. JONES. O. JONES is an enthusiastic devotee of the BUTLER-VORHEES-ERVO chemical science, which coin by "prosto change" silver into gold, and gold into silver. This JOKES thus effected over the Ervo amendment, as described in the Washington Post:

"Does that [Ervo] amendment cover your idea, Mr. JONES?" asked the Post. "Yes, sir," it embodies the idea of the advanced currency reformers throughout the country. The confidence in paper money issued by the Government has become so identified with the intelligence of our people that they will consent to use any kind of gold and silver as medium of exchange."

It values *have* and their day among people who believe in the stability and perpetuity of their Government. It seems absurd for this Government to be issuing obligations payable in a material which may at any time give out. Our civilization has come to regard the legal-tender money of the Government as best adapted to its wants for too many reasons to be enumerated.

There are multitudes of other persons saturated with the same sophism that waters the imagination of this gushing JONES. If it were possible to get them to comprehend that the Government can only create phantom money out of rags or straw when it cuts loose from standards of actual value, they would discard the rag-baby at once and forever.

Suppose, for the sake of illustration, that gold and silver as money are thrown away as "barbarous" by Congress; that their very idea as standards of value or equivalents of value is banished from trade and commerce by statute; that it is made a penal offense to measure the value of any commodity by them, or to give or offer them in exchange for any property.

Suppose, next, that Congress issues this patent paper "money" of the usual denominations in the general form of bank-notes, except that the slips are not redeemable in coin, or bonds payable in coin or anything. The question arises, What would those slips with dollar-marks on them represent? What could a "dollar" in such currency mean? The accepted definition of a "dollar" is a piece of silver or gold of a certain weight, or a paper promise to pay that weight of precious metal. Since by the BUTLER-VORHEES system, gold and silver are to be banished as money, paper promises, what idea of value will attach to one of those green pieces of paper? How can one denomination be worth more than another in the way of exchangeable value? How many bushels of wheat, corn, or oats will a piece of paper marked \$10 purchase? What reason is there for supposing a slip of paper with the sign \$1,000 printed thereon will purchase more cabbage, corn, or cloth than a similar parallelogram stamped with \$5 or any other figure. Those slips of colored paper are not to be redeemable in gold or silver, or any commodity possessing intrinsic value. They are not to be measured by any tangible thing; they are simply idle and sentimental "money." A silver dollar is a tangible piece of metal weighing about one ounce avoirdupois, and it has cost something like a day's work to obtain it. When we speak of \$16 of gold we mean an ounce of gold, which cost the labor of a fortnight's toil to extract from the earth. When the miners part with these metals they demand in exchange other products which have cost equivalent amounts of labor. We thus roughly establish an exchangeable value in commodities with the precious metals. Gold and silver are articles of barter as well as legal-tenders in payment of debt, and he who receives them for debt can exchange them for any property he desires, according to what is called the market value. A pound of silver will purchase ten times as much commodity, or land, or labor as an ounce of silver. The purchasing power of silver and gold is determined by the weight or quantity of metal, and this barter-value fluctuates with the abundance or scarcity of the articles offered in exchange for them under the influence of the law of supply and demand.

The difficulty with the proposed straw money is, that the standard of exchangeable value is not to be determined by the labor of the man who produces it, but by the market value of the commodity or labor, or land, or labor as an ounce of silver. The purchasing power of silver and gold is determined by the weight or quantity of metal, and this barter-value fluctuates with the abundance or scarcity of the articles offered in exchange for them under the influence of the law of supply and demand.

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